

REMARKS

The Office Action dated March 18, 2008 has been received and carefully noted.

The above amendments and the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response thereto. By this Amendment, claims 1, 10-11 and 17 are amended, and claim 16 is canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter disclosed therein. Support for the amendments to claims 1, 10-11 and 17 can be found in the specification at, for example, paragraph [0036]. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the rejections of the claims is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claim 1-14 and 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Van Schaack et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,652,283). Claim 16 has been cancelled. To the extent that this rejection remains applicably to the currently pending claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

In particular, the present application claims a method and associated device and system for enhancing long-term memory that includes providing a graphical user interface input for receiving content that includes an associated memory retention value which is a specific number measured on a scale, receiving the content, formatting the content for use with a query, wherein the query and response feature includes providing each of the at least one query, evaluating a response to each query, updating the associated memory retention value, scheduling a review of the at least one query based on the associated memory retention value, and prior to the scheduled review of the at least one query, placing the at least one query in a passive display status, wherein the passive display status includes intermittently passively displaying the at least one query and an associated correct response, as recited in amended claim 1.

Van Schaack teaches a system and method for increasing the effectiveness of learning that includes a main engine having a Learn Module, a Review Module and a Test Module (Abstract). Van Schaack further teaches that the memory strength of a user over time is quantitatively measured using information gathered during the user's operation and activity of the Learn Module 21 and the Test Module 23 (Col. 17, lines 1-5). The system 10 in Van Schaack also determines whether the memory strength for a particular item has decreased to a minimum retention level, and reviews that particular item (Col. 17, lines 14-28). However, Van does not teach that the "memory strength," which the Office Action appears to associate to the claimed memory retention value, is a specific number measured on a scale. Furthermore, although Van Schaack indicates "quantitative measurements" of the memory strength, Van Schaack fails to teach scheduling a review of the at least one query based on the associated memory retention value, as recited in amended claim 1. Accordingly, Van Schaack fails to disclose or suggest at least this feature of amended claim 1.

For at least these reasons, Van Schaack fails to disclose or suggest all the features of amended claim 1. Applicant therefore submits that amended claim 1 is allowable over the applied reference. For similar reasons, Applicant submits that claims 10, 11, and 17 are allowable over the applied reference. Claims 2-9, 12-16 and 18-20, are likewise allowable at least for their dependence on allowable claims 1, 11 and 17 and for their added features. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative at the number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, **referencing Attorney Dkt. No. 026096-00006**.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments: Petition for Extension of Time
Request for Continued Examination (RCE)

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